



SCOPED AIR RIFLE
OFFICIAL NATIONAL RULES

Revised 2010

No. 2

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These Rules, for the conduct of National Championships, have been compiled by the Discipline Subcommittee, with amendments by the SSAA National Discipline Chairmans' Conference and approved and ratified for printing by the SSAA Inc National Board.

SCOPED AIR RIFLE NATIONAL RULES

SUITABLE FOR ALL .177 CALIBRE AIR RIFLES

REVISED 2010

NO. 2

For the purpose of these competitions, the Rules shall apply equally to all types of air rifles of .177 calibre, hunting, sporting and competition rifles (hereafter referred to in these Rules as "Air Rifles").

SECTION 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1** To provide a training and development platform for international and national rifle competitions.
- 1.2** To broadly simulate the positions most used in international and national rifle competitions.
- 1.3** To develop skills and knowledge of the shooting sports.
- 1.4** To provide an environment for the experimentation and development of scoped air rifle as a shooting sport.

SECTION 2: SSAA STANDARD RULES

2.1 COMPETITOR'S ELIGIBILITY

A competitor who competes in a National Championship must be a financial member of the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia or an Association affiliated with the SSAA Inc or under special invitation from the SSAA Inc National Board.

A current SSAA membership card or official documentation from the SSAA National Membership Office or a SSAA State or Territory Association showing current membership details shall be accepted as proof of their financial membership, providing they are not under suspension from membership.

Members of Affiliated Associations must provide adequate documentation of their current membership of the Affiliate Association.

Any person who is unfinancial or is unable to provide proof of their financial status may pay their full membership fee for the applicable SSAA State or Territory Association, to the Host Branch / Club, providing they are not under a suspension from membership.

2.2 JUNIOR COMPETITORS

A SSAA junior member is any member under the age of 18 years at the commencement of the Championships.

A junior competitor in a National Championship shall pay no more than one half of the standard adult entry fee.

If the Discipline's National Championship includes Graded and / or Junior categories, a junior competitor is eligible to compete for Junior, Grade and Open medals and awards. The winning of a Junior medal or award does not preclude a junior competitor from winning any other category of medal or award.

Junior competitors are divided into two classes

- Under 15 years
- Under 18 years and 15 years and over

2.3 STUCK LIVE ROUND: MANDATORY RULE

Air gun pellets are made of lead or soft material and as such are not considered to be "live ammunition".

The following procedure for a stuck pellet/s applies. If a malfunction results in a stuck pellet/s which cannot be simply removed from the breech end of the barrel, the firearm may be discharged as per rule 7.9. If the pellet/s remain lodged in the firearm the firearm is to be made safe and removed from the Range to a competent person. Under no circumstances is an attempt to be made to remove the pellet/s by insertion of a cleaning rod or similar, from the muzzle.

2.4 COMPETITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

2.4.1 Competitors and Officials to be familiar with the Rules

Competitors and officials should be familiar with the Rules pertaining to National Championships.

2.4.2 Sportsmanship

Competitors shall behave in a sportsmanlike manner as befitting membership of SSAA.

2.4.3 Behaviour

Competitors should refrain from boisterous conduct on the firing range during the conduct of an event. A competitor failing to observe this fact will be disciplined by the Range Officer. In the event of boisterous or unsportsmanlike behaviour by a competitor the Range Officer shall caution the offender once, and, if there is any repetition of the conduct, the competitor may be asked to immediately leave the firing line and may also be disqualified.

Any disqualification made under this Rule may be appealable under the procedure set down in Section 2.7 of these Rules.

2.4.4 Range Safety Rules

All competitors should familiarise themselves with the usual safety precautions observed on SSAA ranges as well as any Rules specific to the range on which a particular championship is being conducted. Unsafe practices by a competitor on a SSAA range can be grounds for disqualification.

2.4.5 Safety Equipment

It is strongly recommended that ear and eye protection be worn at all times by persons who are in the vicinity of the firing line whilst shooting is underway.

It is recommended that suitable clothing, including enclosed shoes or boots, be worn at all times by a competitor whilst engaged in the competition and in the vicinity of the firing line.

A competitor may wear medical equipment which may be seen as giving support if a medical certificate confirming the competitor's need to wear such a device for health reasons is submitted to the National Discipline Chairman and / or Discipline Subcommittee for approval prior to the commencement of the competition.

2.5 RULE INFRINGEMENTS

A competitor found to be infringing these Rules will be given a warning by the Range Officer. If the infringement continues the competitor may be suspended or disqualified from the competition being contested and their scores will not be recorded.

Safety infringements or breaches may result in immediate suspension or disqualification.

2.6 DISCIPLINE CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY

The Discipline's Chairman shall have the power to direct the Host Branch / Club in the manner in which the Championships are to be conducted, and shall have the right to interpret the Rules and requirements to ensure the Championships are conducted in an acceptable and uniform manner.

2.7 PROTEST AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Rules for the Protest and Appeals Committee are common to all SSAA Disciplines and form part of each Discipline's Rule Book. The Rules are as follows:

2.7.1 At all registered Championships there shall be a Protest and Appeals Committee (hereinafter called "Appeals Committee") which shall be formed by the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to hear and decide protests and appeals.

2.7.2 The Appeals Committee shall consist of a minimum of three people including the National Discipline Chairman, any one of whom may be a competitor. The National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee will chair the Appeals Committee. But in no case shall an appellant or protester be included as a member of the Appeals Committee (notwithstanding any Rule or Rules of law to the contrary).

In competitions where more than one State is represented a delegate from any of the States represented may be appointed to be a member of the said Committee and such appointments shall be at the discretion of the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee.

2.7.3 A protest may be lodged by any competitor who feels aggrieved by a decision of the Range Officer, the target scorers, or any other organisational matters or methods of conducting the competition. A competitor may protest the conduct of another competitor(s) or that another competitor(s) has not fulfilled their obligations according to these Rules, or has not properly obeyed the Rules.

2.7.4 The protest must be lodged in writing and accompanied by a fee set by the National Discipline Chairman. If the protest or appeal is upheld, the applicant is to be refunded the amount of the fee. If the protest is disallowed, then the fee shall be forfeited to the organisers conducting the competition.

- 2.7.5** The protest is to be lodged with the Range Officer or other persons nominated by the National Discipline Chairman or their appointed nominee to receive appeals. A protest may be lodged during the conduct of a competition or after the competition has been completed but not later than 30 minutes after the scores for that competition have been announced or posted. When received, the protest or appeal must be given to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee as soon as possible.
- 2.7.6** The Chairman shall convene the Appeals Committee without undue delay and the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hear evidence from the protester, the appellant and person(s) involved in the protest; to require the Range Officer, Scorers or organisers to produce targets, score sheets or other material relevant to the protest; to call evidence from any other person(s) who may be able to help the Appeals Committee and to do all such other things that the Appeals Committee believes will enable it to reach an unbiased and just decision.
- 2.7.7** Any accused person shall:
- 2.7.7.1** have a right to be heard before the Appeals Committee and to remain in attendance during each session of the Appeals Committee.
 - 2.7.7.2** be advised of the time and place the Appeals Committee shall hear evidence of the protest or appeal.
 - 2.7.7.3** be entitled to remain in attendance before the Appeals Committee until the Appeals Committee adjourns the proceedings to make its decision.
 - 2.7.7.4** be informed of the evidence or allegations made.
 - 2.7.7.5** be supplied the details of verbal or written statements made against that person or persons.
 - 2.7.7.6** be given an opportunity before the Appeals Committee to correct or contradict any accusations or allegations made.
- 2.7.8** Immediately the Appeals Committee has made a decision, the Appeals Committee Chairman shall verbally announce it to a gathering of competitors summoned to hear the decision or post the decision on a notice board. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on the matter of the protest and on all persons concerned therein.

Note: Desirably the Appeals Committee proceedings and deliberations should be conducted out of the public gaze and free from distractions of the ongoing competition.

2.8 SUPPLEMENTARY EVENTS

State and Territory Associations or Bodies may devise their own type of shooting competitions and formulate their own Rules for the conduct of supplementary competitions, but in National Championships they will be obliged to abide by the Rules laid down from time to time by the SSAA Inc for the conduct of National Championships.

The conduct of supplementary events shall not in any way infringe on the conduct and completion of the core National events.

SECTION 3: RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

3.1 RIFLES

Any air rifle of compressed air, gas, pump or spring type is permitted. There are no restrictions on the overall length, height or weight of the air rifle. Only air rifles of .177" (4.5 mm) may be used. If the rifle is operated by air the rifle must have its own self-contained air cylinder as part of the rifle and cannot be operated in the competition when attached to an external air supply.

3.2 SIGHTS

Any sight may be used throughout the shooting of any one competition and the making of sight adjustments during a competition will be permitted.

3.3 BUTT PLATES

The butt plate is that part of the stock of the rifle that would normally come in contact with the shoulder. Adjustable butt plates are allowed and may be adjusted during the course of the competition. Butt hooks are permitted.

3.4 ACCESSORIES

Adjustable cheek pieces are permitted. Palm rests are permitted. Rifles fitted with adjustable cheek pieces may be used and may be adjusted during the competition. A hand-stop is permitted.

3.5 SLINGS

A rifle sling may be used in connection with the rifle and one arm only as an auxiliary to steady the rifle. Single point slings are permitted. No part of the sling under tension may touch the rifle stock except at the sling swivel and/or the hand-stop. Loose excess sling material not involved in supporting the rifle may make incidental contact with the stock if not arranged to cause artificial support. The sling shall not be wider than 40mm at any point except the buckles or such devices as are used to regulate its length.

A sling may be fastened to the stock at one or two points. If attached at two points the fore-end attachment must be forward of the front of the action and the rear attachment must be a minimum of 100mm behind the centre point of the

face of the trigger blade. Triggers with adjustable blades are to be measured from the rear most position. A sling may be adjusted and or removed from a rifle during the competition.

3.6 TRIGGER GUARD

A rifle must be equipped with an effective trigger guard. Lack of an effective trigger guard constitutes an unsafe rifle.

3.7 WEIGHTS

No weights, attachments or devices shall be added to, adjusted, or removed from the rifle, or sling, for the purpose of changing the weight or balance of the rifle after commencement of the competition e.g. "heavy" slings, muzzle weights etc.

3.8 ONE RIFLE ONLY

One rifle only shall be used throughout the shooting of any one competition, except where the Range Officer can verify that, through no fault of the competitor, a breakage or failure of some part of a rifle, which has not been due to negligence or faulty practices, prevents a competitor from completing the course of fire in the scheduled position. The Range Officer shall note the time remaining for that competitor and he/she shall be allowed to use another rifle, provided it complies with these Rules in all aspects, and resume shooting as soon as possible or after their detail has completed firing. No sighting shots are to be allowed. It is required that the Range Officer check the rifle for compliance as soon as time permits, but prior to the completion of scoring.

3.9 AMMUNITION

Air rifle pellets of any shape made of lead or similar soft material are permitted.

3.10 MAGAZINES

Air rifle magazines may be loaded to their capacity.

SECTION 4: EQUIPMENT AND MODE OF DRESS FOR COMPETITORS

4.1 SPOTTING SCOPES

Spotting scopes to see where shots strike the target will be permitted for a competitor's own use.

4.2 SHOOTING MATS

The use of shooting mats shall be permitted. The front portion of the mat may be of a compressible material not more than 50mm thick and 500mm x 750mm in size. The remainder of the mat can have a maximum overall size of 800mm in width x 2 metres in length.

Folding of the mat is permitted for use in the kneeling position provided that the mat does not form more than three layers and that the folded mat does not

exceed 50mm before compression (compressible by body weight). The mat cannot be folded in such a manner as to provide greater support or stability than would be afforded by a flat mat. An alternative of two mats is permitted, one thick and one thin, but together they must not exceed the dimensions as indicated above. The use of moulded sitting supports is not permitted.

No kneeling cushions or seats of any kind will be permitted, with the exception of Rule 4.6 (kneeling roll) and Rule 4.10 (disabled competitors).

4.3 SHOOTING GLOVES

Shooting gloves may be worn.

4.4 SHOOTING COATS

A coat constructed of cloth, canvas, nylon, leather or any combination of these materials is permitted. The coats may be lined or unlined and the lining may be smooth or quilted. There may be elbow pads, a shoulder pad and a sling pad made of non-slip material. They may have a fastening seam (buttons, zippers etc.) in the front which may be closed partially or completely undone for various positions. The use of hooks, buttons or straps on the coat to attach or position a sling, is permitted. The coat must not have devices which are used, or constructed in such a way as to tie, fasten or hold the competitor into any shooting position.

They must not restrict the normal movement of the competitor in using any or all of their shooting positions for the event being contested.

4.5 SHOOTING TROUSERS

Trousers constructed of cloth, canvas, nylon, leather or any combination of these materials is permitted. The trousers may be lined or unlined and the lining may be smooth or quilted. Normal street wear trousers or jeans may also be worn. Anti-abrasive pads (attached to the outside) will be permitted on the knees and seats of the trousers, provided they do not extend more than halfway around the garment at that point.

They must not restrict normal movement of the competitor in using all of their positions for the event being contested.

4.6 KNEELING ROLL

A cylindrical shaped roll is allowed for shooting in the kneeling position. The dimensions are a maximum of 25cm long and 18cm in diameter. It must be made of soft and flexible material. Binding or other devices to shape the roll are not permitted. The kneeling roll may be placed under the inside of the instep in the regular kneeling position.

4.7 BOOTS / SHOES

Boots / Shoes shall be without steel bars, wide soles, or other stiffening devices in the upper, except for steel toe protection. The boot shall not be longer than or higher than one and one third times the length of the competitor's bare foot and no wider than half of the length of the competitor's bare foot.

4.8 MEDICAL APPLIANCES

A competitor is permitted to wear a medical appliance which may be construed as giving support whilst shooting, providing a medical certificate confirming the competitor's need to use such a device for health reasons, is submitted at nomination prior to commencement of the competition.

4.9 CLOTHING

Materials for all clothing (except shoes and belts): Any flexible material may be used to construct clothing provided the material can be folded flat and also rolled in any direction. (Note: "folded flat" refers to any material which when pinched together at the fold with the fingers of one hand leaves a hole through which a 3 mm diameter rod cannot pass).

4.10 DISABLED COMPETITORS

A competitor who because of a physical handicap, cannot fire from the prescribed shooting positions as outlined in these rules, or who must use special equipment when firing, can petition the National Chairman for permission to utilise modified positions or equipment. The petition shall be in the form of a written request and shall be supported by a medical certificate stating why the position is unattainable, and will also be supported by photographic evidence showing the required modification to the original position as outlined in Section 6 of these Rules.

The Chairman will issue written authority where warranted to adopt the modified position / equipment and the competitor is required to present this authority at nomination prior to commencement of a match. As no two physical disabilities are the same each case will be viewed on its merits with the following guidelines considered: the position must simulate the original as per the original intent of the position rule. If chair support is required (i.e. wheelchair) the amount of permissible back support shall vary depending on the nature of the injury (i.e. mid back injury 50% chair support; upper back injury full chair support). Boards or tables placed in front of the chair will be allowed in the prone and kneeling positions.

Competitors adopting modified positions and / or equipment with authorisation as per this section shall be eligible for all awards, trophies, etc. under the provisions of the Rules and shall be treated as equal to other competitors in all respects.

The Chairman will issue two types of written authority: permanent and temporary. Any temporary authority issued will have a time limit for review written into the

authority. A petition shall be in the hands of the National Discipline Chairman one month prior to any Championship, to give the Chairman time to consider the evidence presented.

SECTION 5: COURSES OF FIRE

5.1 THREE POSITIONAL SCOPED AIR RIFLE

The course of fire shall be 60 shots, fired over a distance of 10 metres in the following order:

20 shots Prone
20 shots Standing
20 shots Kneeling

Time allowed shall be two details of 10 shots in 15 minutes or one detail of 20 shots in 30 minutes for each position.

All competitors must complete firing all shots for a position before any competitor may commence firing from the next position.

5.2 10 METRE PRECISION SCOPED AIR RIFLE

The course of fire shall be 40 shots, all shots to be fired from the standing position as defined in Rule 6.1.2.

The course of fire may be either four details of 10 shots in 15 minutes for each detail, or two details of 20 shots in 30 minutes for each detail, or one detail of 40 shots in 60 minutes.

SECTION 6: DEFINITION OF SHOOTING POSITIONS

6.1 DEFINITION OF SHOOTING POSITIONS

In describing these positions it is assumed that the competitor is right handed or if left handed, then the reverse applies.

6.1.1 Prone: The competitor may lie on the surface of the shooting station or use a mat as defined in Rule 4.2. The body shall extend on the shooting station with the head towards the target. Both hands and one shoulder shall support the rifle only. The cheek may be placed against the rifle in the sighting position. The rifle must not touch or rest against any other point or object. Both forearms and sleeves of the competitor's jacket must be clearly and visibly raised from the surface of the shooting station forward of the elbow. The competitor's forearm may not form an angle of less than 30 degrees from the station on which the elbow rests.

6.1.2 Standing: Standing is defined as standing erect on both feet without support of any kind for either the rifle or the competitor, with no part of the body or limbs to touch the ground or any other object, except the soles of the boots / shoes.

6.1.3 Kneeling: Kneeling is defined as kneeling so that the competitor touches the ground only with the sole of the left boot/shoe and the lower part of the right leg, including foot and knee, the buttocks resting on the right foot or heel and the left elbow on the left knee. No other part of the body or limbs is to touch any support or object except that a kneeling roll as defined in Rule 4.6, may be used under the right instep.

6.2 RIFLE BUTT POSITION

In all positions the rifle butt is to be held in contact with the shoulder, being defined as that area above the biceps muscle to the collar bone.

6.3 SAFETY

In the interests of safety, all competitors will keep their bodies behind the firing line at all times while shooting is in progress and be subject to the Range Officer's commands.

SECTION 7: MODE OF SHOOTING THE COMPETITION

7.1 RIFLE AND EQUIPMENT CHECK

Prior to the commencement of the competition each competitor shall have their rifle and equipment checked by a person nominated by the National Discipline Chairman to ensure compliance with Sections 3 and 4 of these Rules. Rifles and equipment passing the check are still subject to protest and appeal for any possible infringement of the Rules.

During the competition the Range Officer may conduct a spot check of 10% of competitors to ensure that all rifles and equipment are in accordance with these Rules. This check will be carried out at the end of a detail. The competitors subject to such checks may be picked by way of lottery.

7.2 ALLOCATION OF POSITIONS

At registered competitions, the Host Branch / Club shall draw or consign to each competitor their shooting station position number and detail number.

7.3 SIGHTING SHOTS / PRACTICE

A 30 minute practice detail will be allowed for competitors before the commencement of competition. Once the competition has begun, no sighting shots will be allowed to be fired from the air rifle used in the competition during breaks, i.e. waiting time between details, changing of targets etc. The practice of dry firing will be permissible when done in a safe manner.

The discharge of air / CO2 from an air rifle is not permitted, during dry firing other than under Rule 7.12.

7.4 BRIEFING

Competitors shall be called together prior to the commencement of the competition and the Range Officer or other nominated person will brief them on the procedure outlined in these Rules for appeals, the fee to be employed and the names of the members of the Protest and Appeals Committee (refer Section 2.7).

7.5 CALLED TO THE FIRING LINE

Competitors shall be called to the firing line prior to the commencement of the detail and the following information given to them (if required) by the Range Officer: name, competitor number, position number, position to be contested, mode of fire, distance to the targets and the time limit with the warning call.

7.6 TIMING

After all competitors are in their correct places and have been briefed, the Range Officer will then give the order to "COMMENCE FIRE". All competitors will then have the specified time to complete firing. The Range Officer shall give a two minutes remaining warning call for each position. At the conclusion of the specified time the order "CEASE FIRE" is to be given. Any shots fired after the "cease fire" command is given shall not be counted in the competition and are deemed to be the highest scoring shot.

7.7 EXTRA SHOOTING TIME

Under no circumstances is a competitor to be given extra shooting time over that outlined in the Rules.

7.8 PELLETS

All pellets shall be removed from the rifle after the cease fire.

7.9 DISCHARGE OF LOADED FIREARM

In the event of an air rifle remaining in a loaded condition after the cease fire command has been given and the pellet cannot be easily removed, the firearm may be discharged, but only after seeking the permission of the Range Officer and then only under the direct supervision of the Range Officer. Under no circumstances is the shot to be discharged at the target.

7.10 DISRUPTION TO COMPETITION

Once a competition has begun, it is to continue without unnecessary delays. Range Officers are required to exercise their discretion in this regard. The National Discipline Chairman only, may, if they deem that a competitor has not received a fair opportunity due to some act of providence or unforeseen circumstance, i.e. targets displaced or falling from the target frames, a

malfunction of any range equipment, or a misinterpretation of rules and / or range orders given by the Range Officer, or other range staff etc., permit a target/s to be replaced by new one/s or replace the original target/s and allow a competitor another attempt.

7.11 COACHING

There is to be no coaching or outside assistance of any nature, including spotting, allowed whilst a competitor is on the firing line at registered competitions. Except for junior competitors who may receive coaching and / or assistance with cocking the rifle.

Every effort is to be made to ensure any coaching or assistance does not disturb other competitors.

7.12 REQUIRED NUMBER OF SHOTS

Responsibility rests with the competitor to fire the correct number of shots in the competition. A competitor shall not be disqualified for failing to place the required number of shots on their targets in any one position. Under no circumstances, except as provided for in Rule 7.10, is a competitor to be allowed another attempt on another target.

7.13 REPLACEMENT OF A PELLET

A competitor will not be allowed extra time for replacement of a pellet for anything other than a range fault. Any damaged, dropped or accidentally lost pellets can be replaced by the competitor but must be done during the time allowed for the detail.

7.14 MALFUNCTION

Malfunction is a failure of the rifle to function properly due to a mechanical defect or to defective or incorrect ammunition. Functional failures due to improper manual operation are not to be considered as malfunctions. Running out of air / CO2 in the middle of a stage does not constitute a malfunction or a disabled rifle. The competitor may, with permission of the Range Officer, recharge the rifle with air / CO2. No additional time will be given to restore the rifle to shooting condition and all shots fired up to the point of notifying the Range Officer, will count in the competition. Low air pressure in the rifle caused by a damaged seal or leaks will be considered a malfunction.

7.15 DISCHARGE OF AIR

The discharge of air / CO2 from the rifle during the competition is not permitted. Accidental discharge as a result of failing to load a pellet into the rifle will count as a shot fired and be scored as a miss. This rule does not apply where it is necessary to discharge the air rifle, following recharging.

7.16 RECHARGE OF AIR

A competitor may recharge the air rifle during the course of the competition. With the permission of the Range Officer the air rifle is to be removed from the firing line to an area designated for recharging.

SECTION 8: COMPETITORS

8.1 COMPLETING COURSE OF FIRE

The onus to complete firing within the time limits as laid down in these Rules is entirely the responsibility of the competitor, however the Host Branch / Club should institute all procedures to assist in this regard.

8.2 CURRENT NATIONAL AND AUSTRALIAN RECORDS

Separate classes of records shall be maintained for scores shot on indoor ranges and scores shot on outdoor ranges. Scores should be posted at the range prior to a National Championships. Competitors should be familiar with record scores as it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure the Delegate submits targets and score sheets relating to a record claim to the National Discipline Chairman.

8.3 COMPETITOR TO USE ONLY APPROVED EQUIPMENT AND POSITIONS

A competitor is to ensure that all equipment and positions used under the provisions of these Rules comply with these Rules though it is not necessary for it to be checked by the Range Officer prior to use. A competitor using equipment or positions that do not conform to the Rules will be ineligible to claim any trophies, prizes, or records for which the infringements occur. (See Rule 2.5).

SECTION 9: RANGE FACILITY REQUIREMENTS

9.1 SAFETY

The range must meet all normal and local safety requirements.

9.2 CAPACITY AND DISTANCES

For a National Championship it is recommended the range be able to accommodate a minimum of 10 shooting stations.

The target frames to be at a measured distance of 10 metres. The tolerance for this distance is + 0.05 metres. Maximum recommended horizontal variation from the firing point for each position is 0.25 metres.

9.3 TARGET CENTRES

Target centres are to be positioned so as to be as near as reasonably practical, the following recommended heights above the level of the firing point:

9.3.1 Prone 0.6 metres

9.3.2 Kneeling 1.0 metres

9.3.3 Standing 1.4 metres

Shooting tables may be used for prone and kneeling positions.

9.4 RANGES

The competition may be conducted on either indoor or outdoor ranges. If the firing point is exposed, additional protection for the competitors may be provided by screens, rows of trees or other means. Indoor ranges must have artificial illumination providing the necessary amount of light without glare or distracting shadows on the targets or firing points. The entire area must be evenly illuminated with no less than 300 lux. Targets must be evenly illuminated with no less than 1000 lux. The background area behind the targets must be a non-reflecting, light even neutral colour.

9.5 TARGET NUMBERS

Large numbers shall be positioned on the target frame at all ranges to clearly identify the set of targets belonging to each competitor.

9.6 SCORING EQUIPMENT

A set of scoring plug gauges of 4.5mm (+0.05mm/-0.00mm) and/or an approved scoring overlay must be provided for scoring doubtful shot holes. Only one type of scoring device (plugs or overlay) should be used for all competitors' targets. The Head Scorer may authorise the use of a different type of scoring equipment if required or necessary.

9.6.1 Plug gauges: Both 4.5mm inward and 4.5mm outward scoring plug gauges are to be provided. The Scorer may at their discretion use either the inward or outward gauge depending on the placement of the shot hole being scored. The gauge can only be inserted into a shot once and should be marked accordingly.

9.6.2 Overlays: The scoring overlays to be used should be approved by the National Discipline Chairman. The same type of overlay should be used to score all doubtful shots. Scoring overlays can be placed and centered over the shot as many times as required.

SECTION 10: STAFFING REQUIREMENTS AND DUTIES

The following are the recommended requirements to be complied with to hold National Championships and registered competitions.

10.1 RANGE OFFICER

The Range Officer is to conduct the competition in a safe and proper manner and carry out the procedures as outlined in these Rules. The Range Officer will also check to ensure that competitors on the firing line conform to the Rules as outlined in this Rule Book.

10.2 SAFETY OFFICERS

Safety Officers assist the Range Officer in controlling safety during the competition and any other matters as requested by the Range Officer. Note: For 5 competitors and below, Range Officer only; for 5 to 15 competitors, Range Officer and 1 Safety Officer; 15 plus competitors, Range Officer and 2 Safety Officers.

10.3 TARGET DETAIL

If using non-returning target systems, a target detail is required. The target detail should be voluntary or paid help but preferably non-competitors. They must be experienced and it is recommended that two rehearsal competitions be conducted to allow inexperienced personnel to become familiar with what is required of them. They are to attach new targets to the frames, check the number and dispersion of shots on the targets and stationary backers (if used) and notify the Range Officer of any matter requiring investigation. They are to patch out the stationary backers (if used) so that no holes remain. They are to convey shot targets directly to the Head Scorer. They are also to check that the position numbers of each competitor's targets are correctly in place prior to the commencement of each detail.

10.4 SCORING STAFF

Head Scorer - must be experienced and is to score all targets shot, is to gauge (either with plug gauges or overlay scoring slide) all close shots (re Section 12.1) and supervise the scoring in accordance with Section 12 of these Rules. They are the only one to insert the plug gauge, which will be done only once per hole and the decision reached between Head Scorer and the Check Scorer, and if necessary the Protest and Appeals Committee, shall be final.

Check Scorer - must be experienced and is to check the result of each gauged shot while the gauge or overlay scoring slide is in position and check other aspects of the scoring (see Section 12) before passing the scores on to the Recorder.

Recorder - is to record all scores (after checking) on a score sheet in the proper manner and display targets and scores as soon as possible for inspection by competitors.

10.5 DELEGATE OF THE NATIONAL FIELD RIFLE COMMITTEE

Delegate of the National Field Rifle Committee or their appointed nominee will be present at all registered competitions to ensure that official sanction for registration is only granted to those ranges which conduct competitions in accordance with these Rules (refer Section 10.6). The Delegate is to forward a copy of the score sheet/s to the National Field Rifle Chairman. In addition to this, all targets pertaining to potential National Records detected during scoring or claimed by competitors must also be forwarded to the Chairman for inspection and confirmation.

10.6 REGISTRATION

A State SSAA Association wishing to host a registered competition shall notify the National Discipline Chairman who will inspect, or arrange inspection of the range (if necessary), no later than 7 days before the competition. The National Discipline Chairman will also ensure that the provisions of Section 10.5 are met.

SECTION 11: TARGET SPECIFICATIONS

11.1 FORMAT

Target aiming marks specified below are to be marked in red only, shall have the entire area of the 8 ring coloured red and will be printed on a card 210 mm wide X 180 mm high. There shall be five aiming marks printed on each target card as per the sample target in Section 15.

11.2 10 METRE SCOPED AIR RIFLE TARGET

10X Ring	0.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
10 Ring	5.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
9 Ring	10.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
8 Ring	15.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
7 Ring	20.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
6 Ring	25.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)
5 Ring	30.5 mm	(+/- 0.1 mm)

11.3 Ring thickness: 0.1 mm to 0.2 mm.

11.4 Target paper must be of a non-reflecting material.

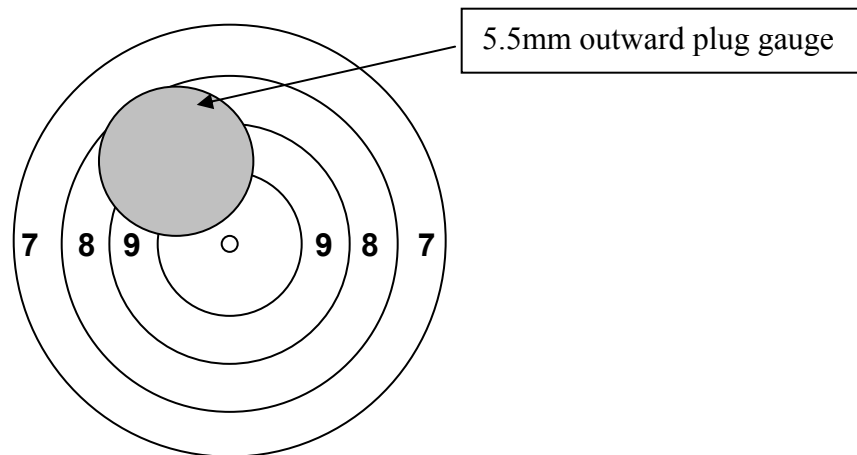
SECTION 12: SCORING, PENALTIES, CROSS FIRES, EXTRA SHOTS ETC.

12.1 SCORING

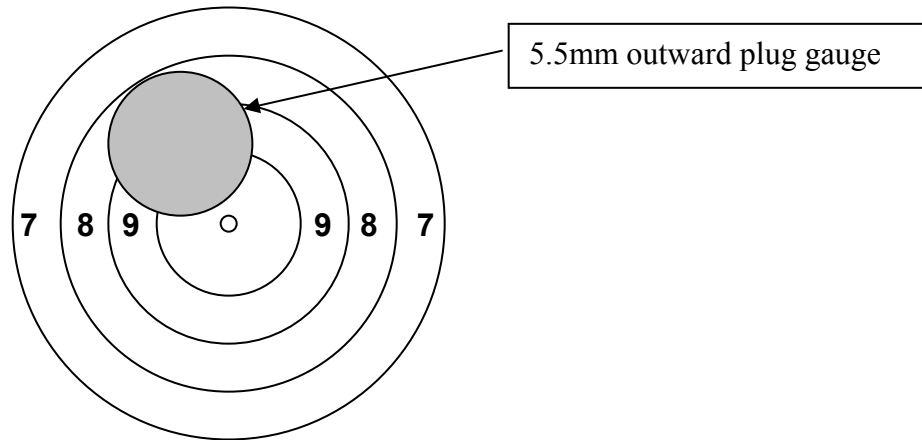
A maximum of two (2) shots will be scored on any one target aiming mark, a total of 10 shots per target card. Targets are to be scored in the usual manner. When using a scoring overlay the overlay should be centred over the shot hole. When using an inward scoring plug gauge a shot hole that touches a scoring ring shall be given the higher value. When using an outward scoring plug gauge, if the outward edge of the flange of the scoring plug gauge lies within the 8 ring, then the shot is scored as a 10. The outward edge of the flange of the scoring plug gauge must be beyond the line separating the 8/7 rings to be scored as a 9, and so on.

All scoring gauges used must be approved by SSAA.

In the diagram below the outward scoring plug gauge shows the outside edge of the flange lying within the 7 ring, therefore the shot is scored as a 9.



In the diagram below the outward scoring plug gauge shows the outside edge of the flange lying within the 8 ring, therefore the shot is scored as a 10.



12.2 VISIBLE HITS

As a general rule only those hits which are visible will be scored. An exception will be made in the case where the second shot on a aiming mark has passed through the same hole created by the first shot on the diagram without leaving a mark. If there is no evidence the shot has gone elsewhere other than through the assigned aiming mark the competitor will be given the benefit of the doubt on the assumption the shot has passed through the enlarged hole.

12.3 CROSS-FIRES ONTO ANOTHER COMPETITOR'S TARGET

A competitor firing on another competitor's target shall lose all the shots cross-fired. The competitor whose target has been cross-fired on, shall not receive the benefit of the cross-fired shot when this can be identified. If the cross-fired shot cannot be identified, it is assumed to be the lowest valued shot on the target.

12.4 EXTRA SHOTS

Where a competitor has fired more than the permitted number of shots for a particular position in a competition, the highest valued shots will be struck out from target aiming marks on which more than 2 shots have been fired until only the number of shots required for that position remain. If an extra shot or shots have been fired at another competitor's target, then the highest scoring shot fired in that position will be struck from the offender's targets for each infringement.

12.5 SELF CROSS-FIRES

Where a competitor fires no more than the permitted number of shots for a particular position in a competition, but places more than 2 shots on one target aiming mark and the balance of the shots, or no shots at all on the other target aiming mark/s then no more than the 2 highest scoring shots on the aiming mark with the excess shots are to be scored.

12.6 TIME PENALTIES

Any competitor who fires outside (before or after) the shooting times denoted by the commands as outlined in these Rules shall have the highest scoring shot taken from their score in that position for each infringement.

12.7 COMBINATION OF ERRORS

In the event of a combination of the above errors, the infringements will be dealt with in the following order:

12.7.1 Cross fires – refer Rule 12.3

12.7.2 Extra shots - refer Rule 12.4

12.7.3 Self cross fires - refer Rule 12.5

12.7.4 Time penalties - refer Rule 12.6

12.8 TIE BREAKING

In the event that scores are tied in a position, a competition or two gun aggregate (equal score including x-rings) there will be a count back carried out by the Head Scorer. The person with the highest number of 10's shall be judged the winner. Failing this, then the count back will use the highest number of 9's, 8's, 7's, 6's, and 5's in that order. In the event that the scores are still tied, then a shoot off will be conducted. No sighting shots will be permitted prior to the conduct of any tie breaking shoot off.

12.8.1 Position tie will be a shoot off consisting of one target card of 5 shots in 7 minutes, one shot to be fired at each target aiming mark for that position.

12.8.2 A competition or a two gun aggregate tie will be a shoot off from the standing position consisting one target card of 5 shots in 7 minutes, one shot to be fired at each target aiming mark

12.8.3 Winner: The competitor with the highest total score will be the winner. The shoot off will be repeated, if necessary, until the tie is broken.

SECTION 13: PROFICIENCY AWARDS

13.1 AWARDS

Awards may only be shot in a recognised SSAA competition with a minimum of three competitors. Targets duly witnessed are required to be submitted to the appropriate Awards Secretary, who will check the targets and scores and will issue the Award if found to constitute an award to the applicant.

13.2 JUNIOR SCOPED AIR RIFLE AWARD

Junior awards may be won by any SSAA member under the age of **18** years, who can shoot a score in a competition as defined below, in the Scoped 3 Positional air rifle competition.

13.2.1 3 Positional combined score of **360**; or

13.2.2 10 Metre Precision total score of **240**

13.3 THREE POSITIONAL SCOPED AIR RIFLE AWARDS

May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a total score for the Award as defined below, in the Scoped 3 Positional air rifle competition.

13.3.1 Bronze 3 Positional Award, a total score of **480** or above

13.3.2 Silver 3 Positional Award, a total score of **540** or above

13.3.3 Gold 3 Positional Award, a total score of **570** or above

13.3.4 Masters 3 Positional Award, a total score of **585** or above

13.4 10 METRE PRECISION SCOPED AIR RIFLE AWARDS

May be won by any SSAA member who can shoot a total score for the Award as defined below, in the 10 Metre Precision Scoped air rifle competition.

13.4.1 Bronze 10 Metre Precision Award, a total score of **320** or above

13.4.2 Silver 10 Metre Precision Award, a total score of **360** or above

13.4.3 Gold 10 Metre Precision Award, a total score of **380** or above

13.4.4 Masters 10 Metre Precision Award, a total score of **390** or above

13.5 ONE HUNDRED AND TWO HUNDRED SCORE PATCHES

Shoot a score of one hundred to claim the "1 Ton" patch or a score of two hundred to claim the "2 Ton" patch in any of the competitions. You can claim the patch as often as you qualify for the score; it can be in any of the shooting positions described in this Rule Book and must be shot during a competition. The Patches are available from the Field Rifle & 3 Positional Awards Secretary. Targets must be signed by the Range Officer and competitor and sent with the completed claim form to the Field Rifle & 3 Positional National Award Secretary with the nominated fee.

13.6 AWARD RULES

13.6.1 The Award for each competition must be won in sequence (ie. bronze, then silver, then gold, then masters).

13.6.2 Each Award can only be won once.

13.6.3 3 Positional Awards and 10 Metre Precision Awards may only be won when shooting in competition. At least three competitors are required to constitute a competition, and must be shot on a SSAA range, under the direction and supervision of a Range Officer.

13.6.4 For the Scoped 3 Positional and 10 Metre Precision Awards, the Rule Book must be followed in every respect.

13.6.5 All targets must be signed by the competitor & Range Officer or Field Rifle/Scoped 3 Positional Delegate, and should be sent with an award claim form to the Awards Secretary. Claim forms are available from the Awards Secretary and all relevant details on them must be completed in full.

13.6.6 The sample claim form in the rear of this Rule Book at Section 16 is to be used to claim all awards.

SECTION 14: GRADES

14.1 ESTABLISHING GRADES

An ungraded competitor is deemed to be in the highest grade for the competition contested on the day, in which there are three competitors, until the competitor has completed that competition, upon which a grade will be given based on that score. For a competitor to go up a grade they must equal or exceed the qualifying score on three occasions. In the next shoot they are in the higher grade and there is no time constraint on downgrading.

14.2 NOMINATING TO A HIGHER GRADE

A competitor can elect to shoot in a higher grade at the time of nomination prior to a registered competition, provided that there are three competitors already competing in the higher grade.

14.3 DOWNGRADING

For a competitor to go down a grade, they must do so by applying to the National Discipline Chairman in writing with due reason and supported by documentary evidence such as score sheets, medical statements and any other relevant information that will help the National Discipline Chairman reach a decision.

14.4. NO GRADING EVIDENCE

If a current grading card or evidence of previous scores cannot be produced at nomination prior to a registered competition, the competitor will be placed in the highest grade for which there are three competitors.

14.5 GRADING CARDS

Grading cards are available from the SSAA Inc. National office. No alterations will be allowed. It is recommended that grading cards be collected by the match organising committee prior to commencement of the competition, for completion of scores after the shoot. The Range Officer or Delegate shall enter all details and sign the grading card.

14.6 GRADES

Grades are as follows:

3 Positional	
MASTER	585 & over
AA	570-584
A	540-569
B	480-539
C	below 480

10 Metre	
MASTER	390 & over
AA	380-389
A	360-378
B	320-359
C	Below 320

14.7 JUNIOR

Junior is an age category not a grade. A junior can win a grade medal as well as any Junior medal.

SECTION 15: EQUIPMENT CLASSES

At the discretion of the National Discipline Chairman, two equipment classes may be offered, Precision and Sporter.

15.1 PRECISION AIR RIFLE CLASS

The Precision class is the class established by the rifle specifications, equipment and clothing Rules contained in Section 3 and Section 4 of these Rules.

15.2 SPORTER AIR RIFLE CLASS

If Sporter air rifle class is offered, all rifles, equipment and clothing in that class must comply with the equipment and clothing Rules for that class. In all other instances the Rules for precision class also apply to Sporter class air rifle.

15.3 SPORTER AIR RIFLE SPECIFICATIONS

The Sporter Air Rifle is intended to be a low cost, entry-level rifle without specialised modifications.

15.3.1 Sporter Air rifles must have a conventional appearance, be .177 calibre (4.5 mm) and be spring compression with a break barrel or cocking lever.

15.3.2 Other forms of air rifle may be used in sporter class provided the firearm is approved by the National Discipline Chairman or the Protest and Appeals Committee as being within the spirit of the Sporter class competition prior to the commencement of the competition.

15.4 SPORTER CLASS CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES

Specialised target clothing and footwear are not allowed.

15.5 COACHING

Coaching or assisting a competitor in cocking the air rifle is permitted in Sporter Class events. If mixed Sporter and Precision class details are squadded, the Sporter and Precision class competitors should be squadded on separate areas of the firing line, so that Sporter Class competitors may receive coaching and or assistance without disturbing the Precision class competitors.

SECTION 16: RANGE COMMANDS, SAMPLE CLAIM FORM, AWARDS

THREE POSITIONAL COMMANDS

1. You are shooting from the:

Prone Position @ 10m

Standing Position @ 10m

Kneeling Position @ 10m

2. You will have:

(20 shot detail) - 30 minutes to fire 20 shots, 10 shots on each target, two shots per aiming mark.

(10 shot detail) - 15 minutes to fire 10 shots, two shots on each aiming mark.

3. You will be given a warning to indicate that you have 2 minutes to complete the course of fire.

4. Any competitor who fires before the command "Commence fire" or after the "Cease fire" command, shall have the highest scoring shot taken from their score in this position for each infringement.

5. If you have any crossfires, misfires, or any malfunction of your firearm please attract the attention of the Range Officer. Once you have completed shooting, have the Range Officer clear your rifle before leaving the firing line.

7. "Is any competitor not ready?" (3 seconds delay)

8. "You may load and commence (one second delay) fire."

The Range Officer should monitor the time carefully and at the appropriate time call:

9. "2 minutes remaining."

10. "Cease (one second delay) fire."

10 METRE PRECISION SCOPED AIR RIFLE COMMANDS

- 1.** You are shooting from the:
Standing Position @ 10m
 - 2.** You will have:
(10 shot detail) - 15 minutes to fire 10 shots, two shots on each aiming mark.
(20 shot detail) - 30 minutes to fire 20 shots, 10 shots on each target, two shots on each aiming mark.
(40 shot detail) - 60 minutes to fire 40 shots, 10 shots on each target, two shots per aiming mark.
 - 3.** You will be given a warning to indicate that you have 2 minutes to complete the course of fire.
 - 4.** Any competitor who fires before the command “Commence fire” or after the “Cease fire” command, shall have the highest scoring shot taken from their score in this position for each infringement.
 - 5.** If you have any crossfires, misfires, or any malfunction of your firearm please attract the attention of the Range Officer. Once you have completed shooting have the Range Officer clear your rifle before leaving the firing line.
 - 7.** “Is any competitor not ready?” (3 seconds delay)
 - 8.** “You may load and commence (one second delay) fire.”
- The Range Officer should monitor the time carefully and at the appropriate time call:
- 9.** “2 minutes remaining.”
 - 10.** “Cease (one second delay) fire.”

SECTION 17: SAMPLE SCOPED AIR RIFLE TARGET

**SSAA
SCOPED AIR RIFLE TARGET - 10 METRES**



Name.....
Date.....
Detail.....
Position No.....



.....X 10 =
.....X 9 =
.....X 8 =
.....X 7 =
.....X 6 =
.....X 5 =



SPORTING SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Scoped Air Rifle 10 Metre - AWARD CLAIM FORM

This form along with the targets must be sent to the Field Rifle Awards Secretary for the proficiency claim. This is to verify that the SSAA member named below has achieved scores resulting in eligibility to receive the award designated in line one.

1. Award.....
2. Date.....
3. Member Name
..... email.....
4. Address.....
5. Club/Branch.....
6. SSAA No. / Expiry.....
Date.....
7. Shot At.....
8. Competition.....
9. Distance.....
10. Air Rifle details:
 Air Rifle..... Barrel.....
 Stock..... Scope Make
- Stocker..... Scope Power.....
 Gunsmith.....
11. Pellet details:.....
12. Score Details:
 3 Position (Open):
 Prone..... Standing..... Kneeling..... Agg.....
 10Metre Precision (Open):
 Card1..... Card2..... Card3..... Card4..... Agg.....
 Junior awards:
 3 Position (Junior):
 Prone..... Standing..... Kneeling Agg.....
 10Metre Precision (Junior):
 Card1..... Card2..... Card3..... Card4..... Agg.....
13. 1 Ton Patch , score Please ensure the \$7.50 fee is enclosed
14. 2 Ton Patch , score..... Please ensure the \$7.50 fee is enclosed
15. Send Award to
.....
16. Please return my targets (circle) YES NO
17. Signature Date
18. Range Officer or appointed Delegate signature.....